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#### CALIFORNIA STATE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

Y. M. C. A. BUILDING, SAN FRANCISCO

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### California State Journal of Medicine.

owned and published monthly by the Medical Society of the State of California

PHILIP MILLS JONES, M. D., Secretary and Editor

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#### ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS

Secretary State Society, - - State Journal, - - Official Register, - - - San Francisco.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Notify the office promptly of any change of address, in order that mailing list and addresses in the Register may be corrected.

#### OCTOBER, 1904.

#### THE NEXT A. M. A. MEE ING.

The next meeting of the A. M. A. will be held at Portland, Oregon, July 11-14, 1905. Applications for membership may be secured at the office of the Society, Room 1, Y. M. C. A. Building, San Francisco.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

There are various ways in which communities gain fame or notoriety. One pretty good way

INTELLIGENT HEALTH BOARD.

is through the local board of health. San Francisco seems to have gained somewhat more than its share of notoriety in

this manner, and there appears to be a good, big lot of it still coming. The Board of Health has just issued a brief pamphlet entitled "Health Hints for the Household; a Brief Treatise on Infectious, Contagious or Communicable Diseases." This is a curious collection of conglomerate cogitations collected and compiled—not by a lunatic, but "under the auspices of the Board of Health"! List to the first sentence: "This pamphlet is issued by the Board of Health of San Francisco for the purpose of furnishing medical information, briefly, in regard to the care in the families of contagious, communicable and infectious diseases." If you are a "contagious, communicable or infectious" disease, you certainly will have some "care in your family," either with or without the assistance of the "Board of Health." The whole thing is so deliciously assinine that we should delight to publish it all—but space is too precious. A few more choice samples must be quoted, however: "The word infection literally means mak-

ing 'into,' and in medical science it means the entrance into a living body of something capable of producing disease. This poison is generally of animal or vegetable origin, and is invisible to the naked eye." My! What a lot there is yet to learn! What an infernal shame that we are not posted as to the other origins of infection, other than animal or vegetable! The writer should have been more generous and not have kept so much science to himself. "What it is when it is a scientific?" Here is another chunk of wisdom: "Contagion is a kind of infection in which the poison is communicated." Dr. Welch ought not to have delivered the Lane Lectures until after perusing the "Health Hints for the Household"; he could have picked up a whole lot of real first-class education, and a few pointers on infection as well. "Man and other animals, and especially their excreta, are the prime movers of infection." And again: "Cleanness or cleanliness means then the absence of dirt, and though an acquired taste-" Just like olives, sardellen, etc. But there is hope for the masses; they may acquire the taste—under the guidance and educating influence of the San Francisco Board of Health. Here's a suggestion of value: "A good disinfecting fluid is made by adding three tablespoonfuls of strong carbolic acid in a quart of water"—to what? It doesn't say; add it to any old thing; put it in your coffee. We call this to the attention of the Tuberculosis Committee: "A consumptive moving from house to house or from room to room, leaves the poison, chiefly in their expectoration (spit)." Certainly legislation should at once be enacted to compel houses and rooms to cease from expectorating (or spitting). It is a disgrace that it should be permitted! Please, good Board of Health, publish some more chunks of wisdom for the families of "infectious, contagious or communicable diseases."

The Publication Committee desires to thank those county society secretaries who have sent in

TO COUNTY SECRETARIES.

reports of their society meetings. Thanks are also due a number of secretaries for the prompt manner in which they answer letters.

If there is one virtue more commendible than all others, it seems to be that of promptly answering a letter. There are a few secretaries who do not send in regular reports, or who did do so but have fallen from grace. Will you gentlemen please consider the value to your members of sending in these reports? It never happens, in all probability, that all the members of a society can attend any one meeting, yet all desire to know what has been done and what is going on. If the essential or interesting facts are embodied in a report—it may be a very brief one—that report will be printed in the JOURNAL and thus reach every one of your members, who will thus be posted as to exactly what your society is doing.

upon premises that cannot be supported. The whole argument is founded upon the assumption that the bodies of the lumbar vertebræ are wider from side to side, while on the contrary the bodies of the dorsal vertebræ are wider from before backwards. As a matter of fact, however, the bodies of the dorsal vertebræ are not wider from before backwards than from side to side. They are either equal in the two diameters, or they are wider from side to side, as are the lumbar bodies; hence the reversed torsion deformities cannot take place by reason of flexion or hyperextension taking place in vertebræ whose bodies have their long diameters opposite in the different segments; and again it cannot be due to this in the mid-dorsal region where the excessive torsion occurs, for it is practically impossible to make hyperextension in this region. While I do not agree with the theory of the causation of the scolioses, I do most heartily concur with the practical value of the treatment advocated by Dr. Watkins, and the mighty corrective force exerted by his machine. months ago, at the suggestion of Dr. Watkins, I went to Halle and saw the machine in the clinic of Professor Wullstein, its inventor. I saw many patients treated and many after treatment in the apparatus, and I left convinced that the treatment of scoliosis had taken a great stride. Since Dr. Watkins procured the machine, I have had the pleasure of helping him use it on several patients, and I assure you that the opinion got at Professor Wullstein's has been fully borne out by the results obtained in Dr. Watkins' cases. One girl in particular (whom he intended to show here to-day) had a very decided costal hump a few months ago, and now, through the treatment used, has had her back so flattened that he considered it folly to show her and expect you to realize how deformed she had been. child has a flat back.

Dr. William Le Moyne Wills, Los Angeles.—I am glad to know that the dorsal vertebræ are so different from what I have been taught. As I have been taught, the dorsal vertebræ are nearly circular.

Dr. H. M. Sherman, San Francisco.—I take issue with Dr. Hunkin as regards the dorsal spine. I would remind the doctor that in our children suffering from Pott's disease we have repeatedly seen hyperextension above the seat of the disease.

Dr. J. T. Watkins, San Francisco.-- I wish to thank the gentlemen for this very kindly discussion of my paper. In reply to Dr. Pahl, I would say that even an anesthetized patient could not be placed and maintained in the attitudes made possible by this apparatus. No matter how willing and efficient your assistants, they are bound to get tired, and that means that sooner or later they must relax their corrective efforts. The machine, on the other hand, does not get tired, and never relaxes its pull. Again, its pulls and thrusts can be regulated to a nicety. Those of assistants, supposing them capable of exerting all such pulls and thrusts, could not be so regulated. Replying to Dr. Hunkin, I would say that even should his criticisms prove correct, it would not affect the theory upon which I base my principles of treatment. We know that when we attempt to bend the spine backward and to one side, the kind of torsion produced in its several segments is the reverse of the torsion obtained by bending it forward and to the side. That much no one questions. Experimentally you have seen here to-day that a straight flexible rod in this case, made of rubber cut so as to simulate the spinal column, acts in the way that we know the column does under like conditions. Upon these unquestioned phenomena I have based the principles of my treatment. Whether my suggestion as to the cause of the phenomena be correct or not, the latter and the deductions from them remain unaffected. Incidentally, I lately put a jacket on a patient of Dr. T. C. McCleave's where there had been, some time

previously, a fracture of the third lumbar vertebræ. This boy presented a hyperextension of the spine throughout the whole dorsal region. I wish to thank the doctor for his commendation of my results. Certain it is that since I have had this machine the results have been incomparably better than any which followed my earlier efforts.

The illustrations are copied from Wullstein's Monograph.

#### PERSONALS.

Drs. E. A. Dial and Philip S. Chancellor have been elected members of the Santa Barbara County Medical Society.

Dr. J. Henry Barbat and Dr. W. W. Beckett left for the east, about the middle of September, to be gone for some six weeks, visiting the hospitals of Chicago, New York, Boston, etc., and of course going to Rochester, Minn.

Dr. Henry du R. Phelan has returned to California, and located at 11 Van Ness avenue, San Francisco. Dr. Phelan left here in 1898 to enter the Medical Department, United States Army, Philippine service. He left the army in 1903, and went to Paris, where he took a post-graduate course at the Faculte de Medecine. About the first thing Dr. Phelan did upon his return was to re-establish his membership in the County Medical Society.

Professor William Osler, until recently of Johns Hopkins, has been appointed regious professor of medicine at Oxford University, England, and we are advised that King Edward has been graciously pleased to confirm the appointment. Oxford is to be congratulated upon securing a man who is one of the best, if not indeed the best physician, student and exponent of medicine of his time.

The charges of practicing medicine without procuring a state license, preferred by the State Board of Medical Examiners against Drs. James Gerow, L. A. Cloutier and G. W. Winckfield of Oakland, were dismissed, August 24th, for lack of sufficient evidence to convict. "Dr." W. J. Sylvester, San Francisco, convicted of practicing medicine without a license, was fined \$100.—Journal A. M. A.

The Canadian Medical Association met at Vancouver, B. C., in the latter part of August, and a number of physicians from California attended the meeting, stopping on their way south to attend the meeting of the Oregon State Medical Association. They report that the Canadian Association meeting was a most complete success, socially; but that, scientifically, the lack of discussion and the somewhat too great length of many of the papers, greatly detracted from the interest of the sessions.

The ignorant quack occasionally victimizes members of the medical profession. One of our members received a package by express, C. O. D., with \$1.00 charges, which he paid and accepted. On opening it he found it contained a bottle of some quack medicine. A day or two later he received the following very curious letter:

"CLINTQN, Ia., 3-2-04.

"Dear sir I ship you on the 5th a sample of my remedy it is garnteed to cure the folering hart & kidney lungs & me would like to have you test it we ship by us express Co this is a free sample yours truly

B. F. MONROE, Clinton, Iowa, No. 231 oak street."

The doctor who was victimized returned the package, with \$1.00 collect, but the gentleman named Monroe refused to accept it, so it was returned. It is certainly a shame that this sort of thing should be permitted, but there seems to be no remedy except to refuse to accept any package, with charges collect unless one knows what it contains.

The much-prayed-for harmony in the state of New York is not immediately to be. It seems that one fool organization, a county association, objected to the doing away with an authoritative "code," and in the course of the legal examination it developed that through a technicality, a single objector could block the whole matter. So it is blocked, and nothing can be done for at least one or two years. One is strongly tempted to quote from "Chimmie Fadden," and say "What t'ell!"

The conditioned candidates at the last examination by the state board have all removed their conditions. Four slides were chosen and submitted to several practitioners, who agreed that they were perfectly fair and just examples to be used as tests. Each of the ten conditioned candidates took two slides at random, and was required to state what the subject of each slide was. The specimens were fibro-myoma, parenchymatous nephritis, atrophic cirrhosis of the liver and carcinoma of the rectum. Three applicants failed to correctly indicate a single slide; seven answered correctly one slide; no one reported correctly upon both slides. One candidate, a special student of pathology and bacteriology, and who has advertised to the profession exclusive work in pathology and bacteriology, thought that the fibro-myoma was a spindle-celled sarcoma, and the slide of parenchymatous nephritis was diagnosed as adeno sarcoma. It is not easy to say whether this reflects lack of training of the candidate or the little value to be placed upon the microscope alone and unsupported by any clinical data.

A physicians' directory, compiled and published solely for commercial reasons, is bound to be more or less unreliable. Our own Register and Directory may not be absolutely perfect, but it certainly does not contain the names of illegal practitioners, as does a very well-known national directory. Note the following illustrations:

Von Tiedemann, Carl W. W., A. M., Univ. of Stuttgart, Wurtemburg, Germany; B. D. Sc., Ph. G., M. D. (R.), Univ. of Rostock, Mecklenberg-Schwerin, Germany; Pacific Coast Regular Coll. of Med., San Francisco, Cal., 1902; Matriculant, Univ. of California and Univ. of Edinburgh; Dean and Prof. of Surg., West Coast Med. Coll., San Francisco; Former Prof. Surg. Pacific Coast Regular Coll. of Med.; Surg.-in-Chief Western Pacific Hosp.; Pres. Med. and Surg. Soc. of the State of California and Appointee of Said Soc. as Mem. State Board of Med. Examiners; 1431 Mission. Tel. Private, South 1180.

Gerino, John B., M. D. (R.), Institute Civico Civile Torino, Italy, 1880; Univ. of Torino, Italy, 1882; German Med. Coll., Chicago, Ill., 1896; Post Grad. Course Chicago Clinical School, 1899; Pacific Coast Regular Coll. of Med., San Francisco, 1900; specialty Diseases of Women and Veneral Diseases; Hours 8-9 A. M., 2-4 and 7-8 P. M. 2924 Van Ness ave. Tel. Red 2015.

The information concerning Messrs. von Tiedemann and Gerino was furnished by themselves, and at least several of the institutions listed in each case have no existence that we are aware of, save in the minds of these interested gentlemen. Gerino was the star performer in the case brought to the Supreme Court which settled the constitutionality of our state law; we are advised that he has now abandoned the illegal practice of medicine and has taken to the stage for a livelihood. Von Tiedemann has been arrested a number of times, and his trial will soon be heard

#### COUNCIL MEETING.

The Council met on September 10th and transacted a good deal of business. Amongst other things, it arranged the councillor districts as follows: 1st, San Diego, Riverside, Orange, San Bernardino; 2nd, Los Angeles, Ventura, Kern; 3rd, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey; 4th, Fresno, Kings, Tulare,

Merced, Mariposa, Madera, Stanislaus, Tuolumne; 5th, Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Benito, Santa Cruz; 6th, San Francisco; 7th, Alameda, Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Calaveras; 8th, Sacramento, Amador, El Dorado, Alpine, Placer, Nevada, Yuba, Sutter, Sierra, Yolo, Butte, Plumas, Lassen, Inyo, Mono, Glenn, Colusa, Tehama, Shasta, Modoc, Siskiyou; 9th, Marin, Sonoma, Lake, Mendocino, Solano, Napa.

The Council ruled that membership in a homeopathic or eclectic medical society constituted "supporting" sectarian medicine, and that consequently members of such societies could not be eligible for membership in affiliated county medical societies.

#### Herzstein Lectures; First Series.

Announcement has been made by the University of California of the first series of Herzstein Lectures to be delivered in October by Dr. Alonzo Englebert Taylor, professor of pathology, Medical Department. These lectures have been made possible through the generosity of Dr. M. Herzstein of San Francisco, who has not only given an admirable equipment for the new physiological laboratory, but has endowed this lectureship for the discussion of special problems in scientific medicine. The lectures will be given on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the students' observatory lecture room, and the public, particularly physicians and medical students, will be welcome. general topic to be discussed by Dr. Taylor will be "Ferments and Fermentations." The program will be as follows: October 4th, "General Considerations; Definition of Types"; October 6th, "Kinetics of Katalysis; Present Application to Fermentations" biological order); October 11th, "Fermentation of Poly-Saccharides"; October 13th, "Fermentation of Mono-Saccharides; Alcoholic Fermentation." October 13th, "Fermentation." 18th, "Fermentation of Protein"; October 20th, "Fermentation of Fats"; October 25th, "On the Chemical Nature of Ferments and the Chemical Nature of Fermentative Accelerations; Specific Fermentation, October 27th, "Relations of Fermentation to Chemical Metabolism."

[P. S.—Just as the Journal was about to go to press, we received further information regarding these lectures. The series will be given twice on the dates indicated, at 4 P. M., at Berkeley, and at 8 P. M., in San Francisco, at the Hopkins Institute of Art. The lectures are open to the public, and all physicians will be specially welcome. There are some minor changes in the wording of the titles.]

#### DEATHS.

Dr. Franz H. Coe, of Seattle, Wash., died at his home shortly after the close of the annual meeting of the Washington State Medical Society, July, 1904, at which session he was president of the society. The success of the meeting seems to have been due very largely to the ability and the activity of Dr. Coe, who, though realizing that his life span could be measured by days, kept that knowledge to himself, and did not allow it to dull the pleasure of the members in session. At the meeting of the Oregon State Society in 1903 Dr. Coe cited his own experience with nephritis, and reported that he felt perfectly well since having been operated on by Edebohls. (See JOURNAL, November, 1903, page 375, erroneously credited to Dr. "Henry W." Coe.) Shortly before the meeting of July, this year, Dr. Coe noticed that albumin was present in his urine in considerable quantities; yet he did not in any way abandon his work, preferring to die "in harness." His desire was fulfilled, for, after an operation which he performed at night, he sank into uremic coma in the carriage on his way home, and died a few hours later. Dr. Coe was a good man and a good doctor, and with extreme regret we record his death.

#### CALIFORNIA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

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NAME	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	MEETS	
Alameda County Med. Association	Jeremiah Maher, Oakland	A. H. Pratt, Oakland	Second Tuesday	
Butte County Medical Society	O. Stansbury, Chico	D. H. Moulton, Chico		
Contra Costa Medical Society	J. T. Brenneman, Martinez	J. S. Riley, Port Costa	First Monday, E. O. M.	
resno County Medical Society	Geo. A. Hare, Fresno	Angus B. Cowan, Fresno	First Tuesday	
Humboldt County Med. Society	G. W. McKinnon, Arcata	G. N. Drysdale, Eureka	Second Tuesday	
Kern County Medical Society	T. W. Helm, Bakersfield	Wm. S. Fowler, Bakersfield		
Kings County Medical Society	N. P. Duncan, Hanford	L. E. Felton, Hanford	Second Monday	
os Angeles County Med. Society	W. W. Beckett, Los Angeles	Jos. M. King, Los Angeles	First and third Friday	
Marin County Medical Society	W. F. Jones, San Rafael	W. J. Wickman, San Rafael	First Saturday	
Mendocino Co. Med. Society	E. W. King, Talmage	W. N. Moore, Ukiah	Quarterly	
Merced County Medical Society	Edw. S. O'Brien, Merced	Walter E. Lilley, Merced	First Thursday	
Monterey County Medical Society	Thos. C. Edwards, Salinas	Dorus Brumwell, King City	First Saturday	
Napa County Medical Society	ID. E. Osborne, St. Helena	II. L. Arbogast, St. Heiena	Quarterly	
)range County Medical Assn	F. E. Wilson, Westminster	H. S. Gordon, Santa Ana	Second Tuesday	
'lacer County Medical Society	Thomas M. Todd, East Auburn.	R. F. Rooney, Auburn	March '04	
Riverside County Medical Society	C. W. Girdlestone, Riverside	H. R. Martin, Riverside	I hird I uesday	
sacramento Society for Med. Imp	A. M. Henderson, Sacramento	J. W. James, Sacramento	Third Tuesday	
San Benito County Medical Society	James H. Tebbetts, Hollister	J. M. O'Donnell, Hollister	First Monday	
an Bernardino Medical Assn	James P. Booth, Needles	Chas. S. Harris, San Bernardino	Second Wednesday	
an Diego County Medical Society.	Fred Baker, San Diego	T. L. Magee, San Diego	First Friday	
an Francisc o County Med. Society	I. Rosenstirn, San Francisco	Wm. F. Barbat, San Francisco	Second Tuesday	
an Joaquin County Med. Society	D. F. Ray, Stockton	Barton J. Powell, Stockton	Last Friday	
an Luis Obispo County Med. Soc.	J. S. Jackson, San Luis Obispo	J. J. Knowlton, San Luis Obispo		
anta Barbara County Med. Assn	Chas. Anderson, Santa Barbara	W. B. Cunnane, Santa Barbara		
anta Clara County Med. Society	J. T. Harris, San Jose	F. H. Paterson, San Jose	Third Wednesday	
anta Cruz County Medical Society	Exeter P. Vaux, Santa Cruz	Saxton T. Pope, Watsonville	Quarterly	
hasta Co. Medical Society	O. J. Lawry, Redding	R. F. Wallace, Redding	Quarterly	
onoma County Medical Society	J. W. Jesse, Santa Rosa	G. W. Mallory, Santa Rosa	Second Thursday	
ri-County Medical Society	P. K. Watters, Watsonville	S. T. Pope, Watsonville		
entura County Medical Society	J. H. Love, Ventura	A. A. Maulhardt, Oxnard	First Monday	
olo County Society for Med. Imp	W. E. Bates, Davisville	F. R. Fairchilds, Woodland		
uba and Sutter Cos. Medical Soc	J. H. Barr, Marysville	G. W. Stratton, Marysville	Quarterly	

Secretaries of County Societies are requested to notify the JOURNAL of any changes in above directory.

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